



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

December 5, 2011

Dear Ms. Marilyn C. Holmes:

I enjoyed learning about your work in our meeting in Washington, D.C. Also, thank you for your invitation to participate and support at the 2011 School Grade Rewards Ceremony. Your belief in and commitment to the community made this event possible. The atmosphere and energy throughout the room was vibrant, and we at the U.S. Department of Education are grateful that you provided your time and resources to ensure that the meeting included the voices of parents, and students.

We are committed to hearing these voices, as they are a critical component in the education reform debate. Secretary Duncan has always said that the best ideas in education are never going to come from Washington, but they will come from great teachers and great principals at the local level.

The U.S. Department of Education is dedicated to engaging these stakeholders in the conversation around education and seeks to encourage and empower them and their communities to do the right thing for their children.

Once again, thank you for your hard work.

Sincerely,

Robert Gomez
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